

Black Knight Command
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Knight's Scroll

BLACK KNIGHT 6



look like a

Well done Task Force Black Knights! We have just completed an intense two month train-up on our Tank and Bradley fleet that took us from the very basic level, through Platoon Gunnery, and culminating with a great Platoon force on force exercise. Throughout the middle of September your Black Knights engaged in over 75 Platoon level battles against the Scouts, Mortars, and Company Headquarters sections who were trained and equipped to fight like Hezbollah- this new 'hybrid' threat is our focus for training for future missions. Every element of the Task Force trained hard and CSM Parrish and I are extremely proud of everything the Task Force has accomplished in the last two months. I have no doubt that, as of today, Task Force 3-66 Armor is the best trained Mechanized Battalion in Europe.

As many of you have already heard, we are now transitioning our focus to light infantry operations in preparation for a deployment to Afghanistan. Starting on 1 November, we will re-configure the Task Force to light infantry battalion. That will require some disruption of platoons and companies up front as we re-build the team for a new mission. My intent is endure this disruption up front and then set the team that we will take to Afghanistan.

Again, I am absolutely amazed and humbled by the pride, energy, and dedication that I have seen from the junior leaders in this Task Force.



They are the force behind our success and the ones that make Black Knight a family and a great place to work.

Thank you for everything you do to make this Team successful.

Knight 06



BLACK KNIGHT 7



Maidens, Family and Friends of the Black Knights,

Army training is what your Soldiers have been conducting and recovering from since our last issue. We completed level 1 gunnery, with great results; firing weapons and maneuvering vehicles for the first time since 2003, and for some the first time ever! A great training event for all; we knocked off the rust and acquired some valuable lessons; again a great training event. You all should be proud of your Soldiers; Knight 6 and I are!

I had the wonderful opportunity to represent the Black Knights in Belgium September 18 - 19. The Belgians commemorated the anniversary of the liberation of Dilsen-Stokkem by TF Stokes. TF Stokes was comprised of 3-66 and the 99th Infantry Battalion. September 1945, TF Stokes maneuvered through the areas vanquishing over 700 Nazi's Soldiers thus liberating the area. It was wonderful to be around a group of people who truly appreciate Americans, specifically 3-66 Armor.

As always thank you for what you do everyday to support your Soldiers and our units!

"Black Knights...Mounted and Ready"
 CSM Malcolm D. Parrish, Black Knight 7



HAMMER



Friends and Family of the Hammer Team-

Fall is finally upon us and as the leaves change and temperatures cool, we once again find ourselves in the middle of some great training. During the month of September we'll execute and support Platoon Situational Training Exercises (STXs) throughout the task force. Consequently, this month is shaping up to be just as busy as August. September started with a bang as we held our very first Best Hammer Competition. After a grueling two hour physical endurance competition, our Mortar Platoon proved victorious and was crowned "Best Hammer." The fun continues on September 2 with our Family Day event at Camp Heritage.

On the 12th and 13th of September the vast majority of our company will deploy in support of Task Force STXs. Our mechanics, medics, cooks, staff, headquarters and support soldiers will establish, occupy and defend the Task Force Support Area (TFSA). Our Scout and Mortar platoons will act as the opposition force (OPFOR) for the Task Force. They'll have the ability to alter their uniforms, use different weapons, and generally create as much havoc for the rest of the Task Force as possible. The soldiers manning the TFSA returned home on the 21st of September, while the OPFOR returned early in the morning on the 22nd of September. The Company held a cookout to welcome everyone back on both days. Families were invited to attend as well. On 24 September, the company will support and participate in the 172nd INF BDE Partnership Fest, which is a celebration of American and German friendship. The event will take place in Netzbarg Park and will include static displays of equipment, numerous activities for kids, and a signing ceremony between the 172nd INF BDE Leadership and the local German officials. Families are encouraged to attend.

The Hammer Family would like to extend a warm welcome to our newest additions: SGT Celona's wife, Paula, gave birth to a baby boy, Joel, on the 28th of August. CW2 Hillyer and his wife, Bettina, welcomed twin boys Alexander and Maximilian on the 10th of September. PVT Limas and his wife, Jennifer welcomed their son, Francisco on the 12th of September.

Lastly, we'd like to congratulate the Hammer soldiers who earned promotions and awards this month. SFC Ballard, our Fire Support NCOIC was promoted to Sergeant First Class on the 1st of September. A week later SGT Tegume, who works in the Operations Office, was promoted to Sergeant. SGT Dallas, a Support Platoon Section Leader, was awarded a Task Force Coin for his performance and assistance during a post wide environmental compliance inspection. Last but not least, the crew of HQ63 Tank was awarded the prestigious title of Task Force Top Gun after posting the highest performance score during Gunnery. The crew includes MAJ Lauer (Tank Commander), SSG Alsopskeel (Gunner), SPC Nelson (Loader), and SPC Bailey (Driver). As always, thank you for your continued support of the Hammer Team. We could not do our jobs without your steadfast dedication and love. STRIKE HARD!

-CPT Sam Rosenberg "Hammer 6"

-1SG Kevin Jackson "Hammer7"

APACHE



Apache family, our Soldiers have conducted some great training since the last issue of the Knight Scroll. Our most recent event, Platoon Situational Training Exercises (STX), consisted of three different operations: Movement to Contact, Deliberate Attack, and Conduct of a Defense. During these operations Platoons encountered a simulated hybrid threat mimicking real world operations that included Tanks, Bradley's, Armored Personnel Carriers, HMMWV's, insurgents, IED's, and civilians all throughout the operational environment. Such a widespread array of enemy created numerous challenges for the Platoons requiring quick thinking and effective battle drills. After all was said and done, the training event enabled our Platoons' to further develop their standard operating procedures while refining the fundamentals of our infantry battle drills. We've definitely progressed as a Company and are starting to grow into a team that knows how to train and fight as one.

Additionally, we've had a couple of graduations and a promotion in the formation. SGT Mclean graduated from the Soldier 360 Course and SSG Ornelas graduated from the Master Resiliency Trainer Course. These two NCOs have gained new skill sets they will share with the unit and it's family members to ensure we remain resilient throughout our time in

garrison and during deployments. SGT Richter was promoted on the 1st of September and is the newest member to Apache Company's NCO Corps.

There has also been some transition in the Company as we welcome new leaders and say goodbye to others. SGT Peil and his family are still getting settled in and come to us from Ft. Bliss, Texas. 2LT Warhank, PCS'd from Ft. Benning, GA, and has taken over as Blue Platoon Leader while 1LT Rogers assumed the role of the Executive Officer of the Company. Unfortunately, with this movement we said goodbye to CPT Fischer as he is currently attending Special Forces Selection and will move on to the Task Force staff afterwards. SGT Oldaker is broadening his Army career and PCS'd back



to the US for Drill Sergeant School in order to shape future Soldiers coming our way. SPC Hagenow, SPC Hill, SPC Erhardt and SPC Murphy have also moved on and we wish them all good luck in their future endeavors. Last but not least, congrats goes out to all the new dads and their wives who had newborns this past month; 1LT Rogers, SPC Marquez, and SPC Gleason!

BLACK JACK



Black Jack Company has been very busy for the last two months. The company focused on level one Gunnery Operations, preparation for Platoon Situational Training Exercise (STX) and culminated with the execution and completion of those Platoon STXs. The Soldiers of Black Jack saw demanding workdays during Gunnery and experienced extremely intense professional development classes as they learned the tactics techniques and procedures required to conduct Platoon STX.

The days of Gunnery were exceptionally demanding as the Soldiers' skills of target acquisition and live fire accuracy were tested. Each tank crew progressed as they negotiated machine gun and main gun engagements, during all hours of the day and night. They eventually reached their qualification engagements, which we tankers consider the "Super Bowl of Gunnery" and were expected to qualify 7 of 10 engagements earning a minimum of 700 of 1000 points. As if that wasn't difficult enough, the crews fought limited visibility at night due to fog, and suffered through random maintenance problems. In the end however Team Black Jack proved to be resolute as

we persevered to our goal of a fully qualified tank company.

Platoon STX preparation consisted of Leader's Professional development sessions for all senior leaders, vehicle maintenance and battle drill for the junior Soldiers, and multiple iterations of the Close Combat Tactical Trainer (CCTT), which enable the platoons to maneuver together as one cohesive unit. This training enables the Platoon Leaders to deploy their units to Platoon STX for 8 days and lead their platoons with distinction as they negotiated multiple iterations and multiple scenarios against an intense and intelligent opposing force who's tactics were extremely unorthodox and like none they've ever encountered.

The company had since redeployed from Platoon STX and is currently cleaning and accounting equipment. Black Jack Company is now focusing on physical fitness and family time as we go through our recovery phase in the month of October.

"ALL IN"
BLACK JACK 6

PHOENIX



The 504th MI Company completed a very busy month of training. For individual Platoon training, the ACT and SIGINT Platoons assisted 2SCR with tactical overwatch of their Afghanistan deployment. Not only did this assist 2SCR, it prepared soldiers for future deployments. The TUAS Platoon finished recovering all of its equipment from its recent training rotation to Hohenfels, where the Platoon supported the 170th INF BDE, the Marines, and the Georgian military. The HUMINT Platoon finished up four weeks of training at JMSC where they were trained by a HUMINT Mobile Training Team from Ft. Huachuca on all aspects of their MOS. Headquarters Platoon completed Change of Command inventories with the help of other Platoons in preparation for the arrival of the Company's next Commander, Captain Spencer Brown.

In between training events, the Company spent quality time as a family during a cook-out at the end of August at Big Mike Lake. Families enjoyed canoeing, sports, and BBQ while managing to raise over \$1000 dollars in funds for the FRG with a pie-in-the-face event. The funds were raised to support a Company trip to Oktoberfest at the end of September. The 504th would like to welcome a new addition to the MICO family, Karson Alexander Skinner, who was born to SSG Lance Skinner and his wife Stephanie in September.



WOLFPAK



Beginning in August, the company performed a level-one gunnery, ending with gunnery tables VI and XII. Gunnery table VI is used to certify vehicle crews, and all of them shot exceptionally well. Congratulations to SSG Wiotte, SPC Perez, and PVT Nichols for earning the highest score on gunnery table VI and being awarded top gun. Following table VI, the platoons shot gunnery table XII, a platoon live fire exercise. The table involves the platoon moving mounted and dismounted and incorporating both the vehicles and dismounted teams simultaneously. The dismounted capabilities that were trained at table XII and the urban assault course will be carried into Latvia. The next training event for A/1-2 IN was platoon STX. The platoons planned for and executed missions against an Opposition Force designed to resemble the hybrid forces that Hezbollah used against Israel in 2006. Despite fewer numbers and inferior equipment, the enemy would use a combination of conventional and unconventional forces and tactics to gain an advantage against the platoons. Each platoon executed three runs of each of the missions with an after-action-review after each run to evaluate performance and develop the platoons.

Following Platoon STX, the company shifted focus from high intensity combat using armored vehicles to counter-insurgency operations using light tactics. Wolfpack ended platoon STX early to train dismounted operations at the urban assault course in preparation for our upcoming deployment to Latvia. The company will be training alongside the Latvian Army for two and one-half weeks as we further develop our counter-insurgency capabilities and American relations with the Latvian people.

Unfortunately, we will be losing five soldiers shortly. All soldiers in A/1-2 IN are members of the Wolfpack family and will be greatly missed when they leave us.

In brighter news, Wolfpack is welcoming three new additions to our family. Savannah Rogers was born to SSG and Janesta Rogers. Bruce Wine was born to SPC and Casey Wine. Travon Eaton was born to SPC and Malika Eaton.

Best luck to SSG Hinkebein through Sabot Academy and Bradley Master Gunner School.

CPT Simeon Wood

Wolf 6

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Relaxation is Important!

Thomas Aquinas said, "It is requisite for the relaxation of the mind that we make use, from time to time, of playful deeds and jokes." Another wise man once said, "Work when you're working and play when you're playing." Ok it was me that made the latter statement, but its still true. And it is important, because if you play when you should be working, before you know it you won't have anything to play with. And if you work when you should be playing, before you know it you won't know how to play or you'll be too burned out. Until the day we die, finding balance in life is something that must be fought for on a daily basis. Most of the time in life, finding balance is like chasing after a mirage in the desert. It doesn't usually feel like we've found what we were looking for, but the important thing however is that we continue to strive ahead toward the goal. This is important because unlike a mirage, finding balance is real and can be enjoyed, the trouble however is staying consistent with it. And as if finding balance were not difficult enough already, being in the military can sometimes complicate this effort at least a *little* more than the average civilian. Nevertheless, finding one's equilibrium is a battle worth fighting. Long term health or success cannot be maintained or achieved if balance is not progressed toward each day. As we transition back from being in the field a couple times over the last month, we must keep in mind the skills that were sharpened from that training while simultaneously, now giving every effort to emphasize investing in the non-field aspects of life such as personal goals, spouse, kids, etc. The difference is what is emphasized or given priority in life...and at what time.

Finding balance is always a battle in life, but don't give up the fight! Ensure you find a healthy balance between work and the rest of life.

TF 3-66 AR Chaplain,
CH Parker

PICTURE PAGE



FAMILY READINESS GROUP CORNER**BLACK KNIGHTS SEPTEMBER FRG NOTES**

We want to take this opportunity to **CONGRATULATE** our...

BLACK KNIGHTS 3-66 VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

Carmen Smith

~Thank you for all your work Friends of the Black Knights!!!~

BLACK KNIGHTS COMPANY VOLUNTEERS OF THE MONTH

Priscilla Nunez (Apache)

Nadine Rea (Blackjack)

Belma Copeland, Katie Gerasimas, Toni Lydic, Roxann Moore, Nichole Norman, Jessica Parker, Cassandre Rawson and Melissa Wolff (Hammer)

Angela Sevilla (Phoenix)

Katey Holland (Wolfpack)

*****You are the Task Force's Superstars*****

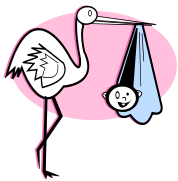
NEW LEADERS AND/OR THOSE WHO WENT TO TRAINING

Ali Cartmill~Point of Contact Training

Mimi Knight~Master Resiliency Training Course

Stephanie Bivens~Fund Raising and Special Events Coordinator

Thank you Ali, Mimi and Stephanie for taking the time to help our Families have a better quality of life

**A SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR NEW BABY KNIGHTS!!!**

Karsen Alexander Skinner born on September 7, 2010 to Lance and Stephanie Skinner

Savannah Rogers born on September 8, 2010 to Matthew and Janesta Rogers

Bruce Wine born on September 8, 2010 to Vance and Casey Wine



Jennifer and Sharon

Black Knight FRG Advisors

Etiquette Note: *Shaking Hands*

It doesn't matter who offers to shake hands first, modern handshaking etiquette doesn't distinguish between sex, age, or position; it makes everyone equal. No one should hesitate to extend their hands first when meeting older or more senior people, what is important is the gesture of friendliness that the offered hand conveys.



October 2010



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 504th Trip to Oktoberfest (rescheduled from Sept. 27) A1-2 Family Day @ USO	2
3	4 FRG Basic Course 0900-1400 @ Chapel Annex	5 HHC FRG MTG 1830 A 2-28 FRG MTG 1830 Bravo Co. FRG MTG 1830 504th MI FRG MTG 1800 FRG Basic Course 0900-1400 @ Chapel Annex AFTB Level 1	6 EFMP Free Bowling 1600-1800 Vilseck FRG Basic Course 0900-1400 @ Chapel Annex AFTB Level 1	7 A 1-2 FRG MTG 1800 Bldg. 912	8 Training Holiday HHC Bake sale 1100 @PX	9
10	11	12 FRG Leadership F.U.N. Volunteer incentives: @ Chapel Annex 0930-1130	13 A1-2 Dinner out	14 EFMP Free Movie Bash 1600-1800 Rose Barracks AAFES Theater	15	16
17	18 FRG Leadership F.U.N. Team Building @ Rose Barracks Bldg. 322 0930-1130 EFMP Training 0930 BDE S3 Conference room	19 EFMP Support Group 1530-1700 Rose Barracks Bldg 322 FRG Forum 0930-1130 Rose Barracks Bldg 322	20	21 EFMP Free Bowling 1600-1800 Graf POC Training 1000-1100 Rose Barracks Bldg 322	22	23
24	25 POC Training 1000-1100 Graf Chapel Annex	26 AFTB Level II 0900-1430 Rose Barracks, Bldg 221 room 206 FRG Treasurer Training 101 1000-1100 Graf Chapel Annex EFMP Training 0930 BDE S3 Conference room	27 AFTB Level II 0900-1430 Rose Barracks, Bldg 221 room 206 Power Training 0900-1530 Rose Barracks, Bldg 322	28 HHC Halloween Event AFTB Level II 0900-1430 Rose Barracks, Bldg 221 room 206 FRG Treasurer Training 101 1000-1100 Vilseck Community Huddle 1130-1300 Tower View	29	30
31 Halloween Howling Halloween Bash Costume party Graf Bowling center						

HAPPY HALLOWEEN





November 2010



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 172nd Infantry Brigade FRG Health Fair. 1830-1900	25 HHC FRG MTG 1830 A 2-28 FRG MTG 1830 Bravo Co. FRG MTG 1830 504th MI FRG MTG 1800	3 FRG Leadership F.U.N. Manage the Madness @ 0930-1130 Vilseck Bldg. 322	4 A 1-2 FRG MTG 1800 Bldg. 912	5 Training Holiday	6
7	8 Point of contact Training 1000-1100 Graf Chapel Annex	9 AFTB Level 1 0900-1430 Vilseck Bldg 322 FRG Leadership F.U.N. Children and development @ Chapel Annex 0930-1130	10 AFTB Level 1 0900-1430 Vilseck Bldg. 322 Power Training 0900-1530 Vilseck bldg. 322	11 Veterans Day	12 Training Holiday	13
14	15 Point of contact Training 1000-1100 Vilseck Bldg. 322	16	17	18 EFMP Free Bowling Main post bowling center	19	20
21	22 FRG Treasurer Training 101 1000-1100 Graf Chapel Annex	23 EFMP 101 1530-1700 Vilseck bldg. 322	24 Community Huddle 1130-1300 Tower View	25 Thanksgiving	26 Thanksgiving 	27
28	29	30				

FRG SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

05	Oct	HHC FRG Meeting	1830	Chapel Annex
13	Oct	HHC Monthly Coffee Group	1000	PX Food Court
15	Oct	HHC Bake Sale	1100	Graf PX Area
28	Oct	HHC Halloween Event		TBA
02	Nov	HHC FRG Meeting	1830	Chapel Annex
05	Oct	Bravo Co. FRG Meeting	1830	Building 911
02	Nov	Bravo Co. FRG Meeting	1830	Building 911
05	Oct	A 2-28 FRG Meeting	1800	Building 910
02	Nov	A 2-28 FRG Meeting	1800	Building 910
01	Oct	504 th MI FRG Trip to Oktober Fest		
05	Oct	504 th MI FRG Meeting	1800	Building 636
02	Nov	504 th MI FRG Meeting	1800	Building 636
01	Oct	A 1-2 Family Day		TBA
07	Oct	A 1-2 FRG Meeting	1800	Building 912
13	Oct	A 1-2 FRG Dinner		TBA

COMMUNITY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

04-06	October	FRG Basic Course	0900-1400	Graf Chapel Annex
05-06	October	AFTB Level I	0900-1430	Rose Barracks Bldg. 221
6	October	EFMP Free Bowling	1600-1800	Rose Barracks Main Bowl
12	October	F.U.N. Workshop: (Volunteer incentives)	0930-1130	Graf Chapel Annex
18	October	F.U.N. Workshop: (Team Building)	0930-1130	Rose Barracks Bldg. 322
14	October	EFMP Movie Bash	1600-1830	Rose Barracks Theater
15-17	October	Crown Jewel Bazaar		Rose Barracks Bldg. 134
19	October	FRG Forum	0930-1130	Rose Barracks Bldg. 322
19	October	EFMP Support Group	1530-1700	Rose Barracks Bldg. 322
19&26	October	Fight for your Marriage	1200-1400	Graf Chapel Annex
21	October	EFMP Free Bowling	1600-1800	Graf Bowling Center
21	October	Point of Contact Training	1000-1000	Rose Barracks
25	October	Point of Contact Training	1000-1100	Graf Chapel Annex
26	October	FRG Treasurer Training 101	1000-1100	Graf Chapel Annex
27	October	POWER Training	0900-1530	Rose Barracks Bldg. 322
26-28	October	AFTB Level II	0900-1430	Rose Barracks Bldg. 221
28	October	FRG Treasurer Training 101	1000-1100	Rose Barracks Bldg. 322
29	October	Very Scary Library	1700-1900	Graf Library
31	October	Halloween Costume/Karaoke Party		Graf Bowling Center